



PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No.: 1909.2.74A

#4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Joseph Andrew Mellmer et al.
Serial No.: 09/670,783
Filed: September 27, 2000
For: MANAGING DIGITAL IDENTITY INFORMATION

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.47
FOR ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION
WITH NONSIGNING INVENTOR

The Honorable Commissioner of
Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Commissioner:

Assignee Novell, Inc. respectfully petitions the Office for acceptance of the above-identified application without the participation of inventor Robert Michael Sheridan. An Inventors' Declaration signed by all inventors except Mr. Sheridan is attached as Exhibit A.

Mr. Sheridan acknowledged both his role as inventor and Novell's rights in the invention by signing an assignment to Novell of four provisional applications to which the present non-provisional application claims priority. A copy of the assignment is attached as Exhibit B. The assignment is recorded in the Office at Reel 010906 on 25 frames beginning at Frame 0679.

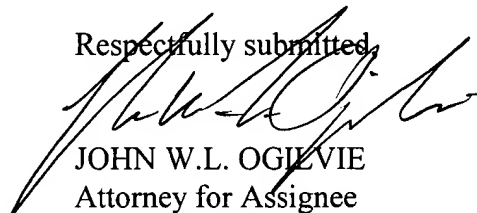
Mr. Sheridan could not be reached prior to filing the present non-provisional application. However, diligent efforts were made to let him review and sign the present application's papers, as described in a Declaration of John W.L. Ogilvie which is Exhibit C of this Petition. In particular, a copy of the application papers was delivered by Federal Express courier service to Mr. Sheridan's last known address, as indicated on an airbill and proof of delivery which are attached as Exhibit D.

Novell will be irreparably damaged unless the application is accepted without Mr. Sheridan's participation. Novell therefore respectfully petitions the Office to grant this application status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47 to permit the examination to proceed, and permit any resulting patent(s) to issue, without Mr. Sheridan's signature.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned if there are any questions regarding this matter.

Date: November 14, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,



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